

LABOR POWER

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Minneapolis W.P.A. Strikers on Trial

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ORGANIZATION NOTES

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A MESSAGE TO THE MEMBERSHIP FROM THE NATIONAL SECRETARY

Comrades:

My short stay on the road has already brought home to me the fact that the deepening war crisis and the growing decadence of capitalism offer the De Leonist movement a golden opportunity to carry our message to the masses.

Pure and simple political Socialism, both of the Norman Thomas reformist Socialist Party variety, and of the Leninist political Dictatorship brand, is becoming increasingly discredited. In the failure of the Roosevelt New Deal the workers are beginning to discern the futility of social reformism and its impotence to answer the burning questions of the day. On the other hand, the degeneration of the Soviet regime into an open Dictatorship over the Russian masses has steeled the American workers against any so-called Proletarian Dictatorship or political domination by any "vanguard" political group.

Only our program, which calls upon the working class to establish its own democratic rule over society through the establishment of the Socialist Industrial Union of all the workers, meets the social need of the hour.

But let us remember, comrades, if our message of Revolutionary Industrial Unionism is to be brought to the workers, on ourselves lies the imperative duty of conveying it. The program of emancipation will not fall upon the workers like manna from the heaven. The age of miracles has long since passed.

Your two organizers have made a start in going abroad with the message of the Socialist Union Party. But they cannot carry on this task alone. They need the full co-operation of every single member and friend if their tours are to be successful. They must have the assurance that every Branch is carrying on its full quota of propaganda activity. **WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO HELP SPREAD THE MESSAGE?**

This is no time for slackening or for

finding alibis for not working. What we did yesterday counts as nothing against what we must do today and tomorrow. I ask every comrade to do his bit to an extent even greater than before.

Build "LABOR POWER"! Get subscriptions and contributions! Support the Party's Funds by increasing your pledges and paying them promptly! Be a self-appointed organizer for Socialist Industrial Unionism!

ABRAHAM ZIEGLER,
Provisional National Secretary.

* * *

BRANCH MINNEAPOLIS

With the arrival of the National Secretary, Comrade Abraham Ziegler, Branch Minneapolis immediately swung into a previously arranged campaign of activities. The opening gun fired was the launching of an elementary study class in Marxism and Applied Labor Problems. The first session was held on Tuesday evening, October 31st. Despite the holiday atmosphere, ten students were on hand to listen to the preliminary remarks of Comrade Ziegler, who is acting as instructor.

Stressing the vital importance of working class education in this era of decadent capitalism with the horrors of fascism and war staring us all in the face, Comrade Ziegler pointed out that only a correct understanding of the laws of motion governing capitalist society could help the workers avoid the false social nostrums which are being peddled broadcast as the cure for existing social ills. Continuing, the instructor briefly outlined the epoch-making contributions to social science made by Marxism: first, the Law of Surplus Value, which lays bare the legalized robbery of the produce of the working class which is the basis of the existing capitalist system; and second, the Materialist Conception of History, which reveals, among other things, the class nature of all society since the days of primitive Communism, and the economic basis of

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Editorials . . .

STALINISM'S NEW TURN: SAVE HITLER BY PROLETARIAN REVOLUTION

With the latest outpourings of the Soviet spokesman, Molotov, in Russia, and of Stalin's American echo, Earl Browder, the cloud which has obscured the recent gyrations of the Communist Parties throughout the world, is lifted.

Clearly revealed in all its shameless nakedness is the new line of Stalinism: The war guilt is to be placed principally on the shoulders of Great Britain, France and the United States, while Nazi Germany's role is to be soft-pedaled. The workers of Britain, France and the United States are to be called upon to overthrow their capitalist masters, while the brutal domination of the Nazis over the German working class is to be left undisturbed as far as Stalinism is concerned.

Of all the monstrous moves made by Stalin and his henchmen up till now, none equals in treachery this newest perversion of the spirit of proletarian revolt to anti-proletarian ends. For the plain meaning of the new line is that Hitler's power is to be secured by the overthrow of his arch-enemies, the Allies and the United States, from within. This is a complete reversal of the line which prevailed up to August 23rd. From urging the workers in the so-called democracies to unite with

their ruling class in order to defeat Hitler. Stalin has turned to urging those same workers to oust their rulers in order to save the Fuehrer's skin. Never in all history has there been a more open betrayal of the workers.

Molotov's speech of October 31st provided the tip-off for what was to follow. Addressing a specially-convened extraordinary joint session of the Soviet Supreme Council, Stalin's right hand man let loose a blast against the Allies as the real aggressors in this war and denounced the United States for its unneutral conduct, but at the same time gave Hitler a clean bill of health. "Germany is striving for peace. Britain is now the aggressor," proclaimed the Soviet Premier.

Molotov proceeded to lay the real cause of the prolongation of the war after the defeat of Poland to Britain's fear of a resurgent Germany. This is true enough. But he conveniently forgot to add that Germany wants peace now only because Hitler needs a breathing spell to consolidate his gains in Poland before embarking on his next aggression. Molotov ridiculed Britain's pretensions to waging a struggle for democracy, pointing out how the British Empire is mercilessly oppressing and exploiting hundreds of millions of colonial natives. This passage was extraordinary enough, coming from the spokesman for the bureaucracy which holds 170 million Russians in subjugation by a regime of bloody suppression. But its most peculiar feature was that it failed even to mention Hitler's butcheries, his concentration camps, his destruction of all civil liberties for German workers.

To cap the climax, Molotov added insult to injury by attempting to tie up the cause of the working class with Hitler's fake peace drive. "This war," he commented hypocritically, "promises nothing to the working class but bloody sacrifice and hardships." Thus was the stage set for the pronouncement of the new line.

In the United States, the Communist Party has been engaged in backing and filling for the past two months, trying to jockey its way to a clear break with the old line. On November 5th, in a speech at Boston, Browder finally came out openly

with the party's new position. Using "left" phrases which had been discarded for more than four years, Browder turned his back on President Roosevelt and the New Deal, declaring them to be tools of American capitalism. Charging that the war guilt lies on all the belligerents, he qualified this by declaring that "at this moment the responsibility for continuing the war lies, before all, upon the British and French imperialists who have rejected the very thought of a halt to hostilities and who feverishly work to involve all other countries in the slaughter." He concluded his speech by calling upon the Communist Party to lead the workers to Socialism. Thus in every respect Browder parroted his masters in the Kremlin.

The Socialist Union Party categorically rejects and denounces this attempt to tie the working class movement to the chariot of Hitlerism. We hold no brief for British imperialism. We have repeatedly laid bare the arrant hypocrisy of the claims that Britain is fighting a holy crusade against Hitlerism and in favor of democracy. However, we do not fight British imperialism in the interests of its rival, German imperialism, as does the Stalinist bureaucracy in Moscow and its American agency, the Communist Party.

Between the rival camps of imperialism the working class cannot take sides. It must conduct an uncompromising struggle for the defeat and overthrow of all imperialists, including the "Red" imperialism of Stalin. Working class solidarity and proletarian revolution are weapons which must be used to put an end forever to all capitalist exploitation; they must not be perverted to the use of one set of bandits against the other.

Workers, be on your guard against the American agents of Hitler's new partner in crime, Stalin. Remember that Stalinism is organized treachery in action!

THE BATTLE FOR "HAM AND EGGS"

The results are in. The voters of Ohio and California have decisively repudiated, by large majorities, the "ham and eggs"

old age pension plans which were submitted to referenda in those states. Fantastic and economically unworkable as these schemes were, they were supported by the votes of hundreds of thousands of aged people whose acute need for the means of subsistence led them to heed the demagogic promises of the promoters of the schemes, even against their own better judgment. For these old people in dire straits the defeat of their cherished hope settles nothing. The problem of existence still remains.

The merchants and bankers, the manufacturers and the railroads, the stock exchanges and the chambers of commerce whose well-financed opposition to the pension proposals was in great measure responsible for their defeat, are well pleased with the results. Two state governments have been saved from bank-

WAR

Ez fer war., I call it murder,—

There you hev it plain an' flat;

I don't want to go no fuder

Than my Testymnt fer that;

God hez sed so plump an' fairly,

It's ez long ez it is broad,

An' you've got to git up airly

Ef you want to take in God.

Wut's the use o' meetin'-goin'

Every Sabbath, wet or dry,

Ef it's right to go amowin'

Feller-men like oats an' rye?

I dunno but wut it's pooty

Trainin' round in bobtail coats,—

But it's curus Christian dooty

This 'ere cuttin folks's throats.

Tell ye jest the eend I've come to

Arter cipherin' plaguey smart,

An' it makes a handy sum, tu

Any gump could larn by heart;

Laborin' man an' laborin' woman

Hev one glory an' one shame.

Ev'y thin' thet's done inhuman

Injers all on 'em the same.

—By JAMES RUSSELL LOWELL
"The Biglow Papers"

ruptcy, and they have been relieved of the burden of taxation which the adoption of the schemes would have placed upon them. Nevertheless, their victory is only temporary. The necessity for devising some effective means to satisfy the demands of the aged, the impoverished and the unemployed will quickly arise again to dispel their joy.

The battle of the aged in California and Ohio for "ham and eggs" is only one aspect of the larger struggle for economic security which is being carried on by the working class throughout the entire United States. The harsh truth is, however, that as long as capitalism lasts, that praiseworthy aim is impossible of fulfillment. The capitalist class and its private ownership of the means of production stand in the way.

Consider the worker's chances. His comparatively modest ambition is to earn enough to support his family comfortably, and to lay aside sufficient to provide for himself when he can no longer work. Yet, when he gets a job, the first thing he experiences is the boss's constant effort to pay him as little as possible. Even when he organizes with his fellow workers and compels the boss to pay "decent" wages he finds that at the end of the year his living expenses are equal to if not more than his income. That is, if he is lucky. Most workers find that they are always running behind. So even if he has steady employment, the worker cannot save enough to provide for old age.

But that is only one side, and the rosier side at that. The worker finds that from time to time his boss cannot make a profit from the use of his labor power, so he is laid off. Finally the boss finds that human labor is too expensive, so he dispenses with the services of many workers and replaces them with machinery, which can produce much more than the human at a much lower cost. So our worker is now thrown out to join millions of his unfortunate fellows in walking the streets waiting for his next job, which never comes.

He turns to "his" government and the politicians who are always making beautiful promises just before election, and for-

getting them immediately afterward. After being examined, checked, verified, notarized, pledged and certified, he finally secures a pittance of home relief. He applies for a W.P.A. job and is overjoyed finally to get a job as an unskilled worker. After he has partially recovered his self-respect the politicians decide that he is being overpaid, so wage cuts are instituted, bringing his wages down to bare existence levels, if not below them. After 18 months he is thrown off the W.P.A., because steady work on that liberal-paying job is supposed to blunt his desire to secure work in private industry. And so he returns to home relief, if he can get it. And with this merry-go-round in action, the worker seeks to obtain economic security!

The road to security does not lie in

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NEW YORK STUDY CLASS ORGANIZES

Branch New York is now organizing a new Study Class in Elementary Marxism to be held regularly once a week at 1301 Boston Road, Bronx, beginning about the middle of November. This course will take up Political Economy, Historic Materialism, Labor History and Current Problems. Students will be expected to do outside reading in order to supplement the knowledge gained from class discussions. The Socialist Union Party library will be available for the use of the students.

All readers in New York City and vicinity are invited to attend this Study Class. You may register by dropping a post card to the Organizer, Branch New York, P. O. Box 4, Station T, New York. The class will be conducted either on Thursday evenings or Sunday afternoons, depending on the preference expressed by the majority of those registering. There is no charge or obligation for attending.

Announcement of the exact opening date of the class will be sent to all who register, upon the completion of necessary preliminary arrangements.

HOW NEUTRAL IS ROOSEVELT ?

THE REPEATED assurances of President Roosevelt that America desires peace and will stay out of war, the tenor of the Neutrality debate in Congress where both sides strove to outdo each other in setting claim to being the only true upholders of peace, and the fierce determination of the broad masses of people not to be drawn once more into the European slaughter, a sentiment which seemingly is shared by all "our leading citizens," has served to create the widespread conviction that America will succeed in retaining her neutrality.

This feeling is entirely illusory and in direct contradiction to the actual state of affairs. Despite all the violent disclaimers of the President that the United States does not intend to become involved in war, the Roosevelt Administration is determined to assure an Allied victory. Before our very eyes there is being spun a web of un-neutral conduct which must inevitably culminate in America's openly lining up with Great Britain and France. The President's honeyed words are belied by America's deeds.

From the very outset, Roosevelt has endeavored to create and maintain a state of war fear which would facilitate his plans to aid the Allies. Within a few days after the outbreak of the war, the President, on his sole responsibility, proclaimed a "limited state of emergency." Since there was absolutely no sign of any danger to American interests, this haste in declaring a state of emergency can only be attributed to a desire to create a war hysteria under cover of which the administration could take such action as it pleased to prepare the country for further steps towards war.

How utterly groundless this declaration of alleged emergency really was becomes evident if we note that the President subsequently suppressed the final report of his own War Resources Board on the ground that "since America is not going into war the report is of no interest to the general public." This is a vivid illustration of the Roosevelt duplicity: On the one hand he proclaims a "limited state of

emergency" based on the danger of American involvement in war, while on the other hand he withholds the War Resources Board statement because America is not going into the fray. But our readers will note that although America is supposed to be outside the battle, the "limited state of emergency" decreed by Roosevelt still continues to exist.

The administration did not even wait for the actual declarations of war to inaugurate its unneutral policy of assisting the Allies. Just a few days before the first gun was fired in Poland, the Nazi crack liner, the Bremen, which was preparing to make a quick passage across the Atlantic to avoid capture by British men-of-war, was forcibly kept at its pier in New York harbor by a mysterious order from Washington. It was announced that the Bremen was being subjected to a thorough search to guard against undisclosed infractions of Federal statutes. This unprecedented search failed to reveal any violation of American law, but the 48 additional hours which the Bremen was forced to remain in port came close to causing its capture on the high seas when Britain entered the war. As it was, the Nazis were compelled to send the liner to Murmansk, where it will probably stay for the duration of the

Daniel De Leon

"The only man who has added anything to Socialist theory since Marx and Engels."

—N. Lenin.

All workers owe it to themselves to become acquainted with the works of one who is universally conceded to be America's foremost revolutionist and Marxian theoretician. Knowledge is power!

We recommend:—

Reform and Revolution 5c
Socialist Industrial Unionism . 10c
What Means This Strike? 5c

Send all orders to: P.O. Box No. 4,
Station T, New York, N. Y.

war. The detention of the Bremen was distinctly an unneutral act on the part of the United States government.

Every department of the government has been mobilized to render assistance to the Allies, particularly in aiding the British and French propaganda while combatting Germany's similar hokum. The harrowing atrocity story of the Nazi invasion of Poland told by American Ambassador to Poland, Biddle, was immediately challenged by the German Propaganda Ministry, which charged Biddle with having colored his story to suit the wishes of President Roosevelt, after having received instructions from William C. Bullitt, American envoy to Paris. Both American diplomats denied the Nazi charge, but it is still an open question as to which side is lying the most.

The U. S. Naval Attache at London contributed his share to helping British propaganda along by revealing to the press that he had reported to the Navy Department in Washington there was no truth in the Nazi claim that the British aircraft-carrier *Ark Royal* had been bombed and destroyed. This procedure is the more curious in that it is not customary for military and naval attaches to discuss publicly occurrences in the countries to which they are accredited. There is no similar record of any American official at Berlin confirming the truth of a Nazi story or denying a British Ministry of Information handout, although it appears that both sides are equally untrustworthy in their press claims.

The State Department at Washington is also right on the job of making America unneutral. Reporting the announcement by Secretary of State Hull that the American government will refuse to recognize the conquest of Poland and will continue to maintain diplomatic relations with the emigre Polish government, Frank L. Kluckhohn in the *New York Times* commented, "In some quarters there was a disposition to see significance in the issuing of Mr. Hull's statement at a time when Germany and Russia are seeking to bring pressure upon Britain and France to agree to the partition of Poland and make peace."

Mr. Kluckhohn called attention to the

is somewhat unusual, in that in the previous cases of Ethiopia, Austria, Czechoslovakia and Albania, all of whom were conquered by force, the United States withdrew its representatives to those countries, recognizing the accomplished fact. Secretary Hull's action was the same as that taken by Great Britain and France. Thus we see the American government reversing its own previously-established precedents in order to comply with Allied wishes.

The conduct of the President himself supplies the most convincing evidence of the unneutral attitude of the administration. First there was his call for repeal of the existing arms embargo law and the substitution of a law admittedly designed to help the Allies obtain war supplies while Germany is unable to do so. Next came his repeated statements that submarines were lurking off the Atlantic coast, statements which were designed to raise a fear of German attacks in the minds of American readers. The later statements of the Coast Guard that they could find no trace of the alleged submarines were ignored by the President and buried on inside pages by the press. Then there was his proclamation barring belligerent submarines from American ports, but not mentioning warships. This will harm only the Germans. The latest indication that Roosevelt's intention is to draw America into the battle came when the Nazis sent unofficial feelers out, offering to accept his services as mediator in an effort to end the war.

American diplomacy, when American interests were not directly involved, has
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"We should never forget that the Fascist dictators have already begun the second imperialist war, and that they are striving to expand the present conflicts into a World War directed against the leading democracies—the United States, France, Great Britain and the Soviet Union."

—*Daily Worker*, Aug. 16, 1939.

MINNEAPOLIS W.P.A. STRIKERS ON TRIAL

The aftermath of the struggle of the W.P.A. workers to maintain the prevailing wages rule and to prevent the lowering of their working standards is now being enacted in Federal District Court in Minneapolis, where 162 former W.P.A. workers who dared to exercise their right to strike and to picket are being tried on charges of conspiracy.

This trial, which the capitalist press for the most part has seen fit to ignore, arose out of the militant strike conducted by the Minneapolis relief workers against the Woodrum "Starvation Relief Bill." Refusing to be intimidated even by the dictum of President Roosevelt that "You can't strike against the government," the Minneapolis workers made their protest so effective that they succeeded in closing down completely all W.P.A. projects in Minneapolis.

The militancy of these workers who dared disregard the presidential pronouncement so infuriated the "great humanitarian" in the White House that he instructed his Attorney General, Frank Murphy, to make an example of these insolent and ungrateful wretches. Mr. Murphy, whose chief occupation seems to be traveling up and down the country making beautiful speeches upholding civil liberties, loosed a horde of F.B.I. agents on Minneapolis to investigate the "conspiracy" against the government. On the basis of the Federal agents' snooping activities, the Federal Grand Jury proceeded to indict 162 W.P.A. militants.

To assure convictions, special pains were taken by the Federal Court authorities to draw a "safe" jury panel, from which all labor sympathizers were excluded. According to the petition of the defendants, the entire jury panel was taken from the names provided by the virulently labor-hating Civic and Commerce Associations of the City of Minneapolis, and the Association of Commerce and the Junior Association of St. Paul, among others, as well as from suggested names received from judges of the Probate Court and County Attorneys of Minnesota and from names taken from telephone directories and rural

gazettes. So it is no accident that no names of persons friendly to the cause of labor appeared on the panel from which the trial jury was chosen.

That a jury so packed with "sane" and "sound" elements would bring in verdicts of guilty was a foregone conclusion. And so it came to pass. The first two groups of defendants to be placed on trial have already been convicted, and from all indications the remaining defendants will fare no better. The evidence submitted by the government was of the flimsiest character. The prosecution's star witness, a blackleg aptly named Slaughter, had himself previously been convicted in the state courts for criminal conduct in connection with a knife-slashing spree against picketing strikers. That the Federal prosecutor should base his case on such "evidence" and that the jury should find for conviction only testifies to the truth of the charges of anti-labor bias made by the defendants.

Both the C.I.O. and the A.F.L. unions are strongly supporting the indicted strikers. The *Minneapolis Labor Review*, official organ of the A.F.L. Central Labor Council, has been waging a strong press campaign against the prosecutions. Thus, unwittingly, the New Deal onslaught on the W.P.A. has had a constructive effect on the labor movement, on which no one had reckoned. There always has been close co-operation between the employed

Straws in the wind:

"Question for the War Department: Is the United States at war? If not, then why is the \$1,700,000,000 army and navy appropriation for 1939-40 more than half a billion dollars larger than the total cost of the Government for 1916-17, when we entered the last war? And why, if our policy is "national defence," are hundreds of millions of dollars being spent on armaments that will never be used for defence?"—Ernest L. Meyer in the *N. Y. Post*.

and the unemployed workers in Minneapolis. The trumped-up conspiracy prosecutions have been recognized by the organized labor movement to be not merely an attack on the W.P.A. strikers, but a direct attack on the basic right of labor to organize and strike. As a result, the bonds between the employed and the unemployed have been cemented more solidly than before.

In the early days of capitalism in the United States strikes were outlawed and suppressed ruthlessly under laws originally designed to punish criminal conspiracy. It took long and unremitting struggle and untold sacrifices of liberty and limb on the part of labor to establish the right of workers to strike and to picket. It has remained for the New Deal "labor-loving" administration to take a leaf from Fascism's book by reviving the conspiracy statutes to smash strike action, thus attempting to set back the clock more than 75 years.

The progressive attitude of the A.F.L. unions in coming to the assistance of their struggling unemployed brethren sets Minneapolis apart from the general run of A.F.L. conservatism and reaction. Nevertheless it must be pointed out that their campaign among the workers is being seriously weakened by a studied attempt to ignore the role of President Roosevelt and to absolve the New Deal of the responsibility for the conspiracy prosecutions. In furtherance of this objective, the local District Attorney, Victor Anderson, is being cast in the role of villain and is made the scapegoat for the Roosevelt administration at Washington.

Lest it be forgotten, let us recall that it was Roosevelt who called for reduction of Federal expenditures for W.P.A. It was Roosevelt who signed the Woodrum Bill, specifically approving the abolition of the prevailing wages rule which led to the nationwide strike and to the closing down of the Minneapolis W.P.A. projects. It was Roosevelt who proclaimed: "You cannot strike against the government." It was Roosevelt who ordered the original inquiry into the Minneapolis situation and it was his Attorney General who sent the F.B.I. to dig up the "evi-

dence" on which the conspiracy indictments were based. Finally, the District Attorney, Anderson, is a presidential appointee, subject to presidential control, and there can be no doubt but that he is acting on orders direct from Washington in vigorously prosecuting the militant W.P.A. strikers.

The attempt to whitewash the President of his responsibility for the trials is not deceiving the W.P.A. workers who have seen their standards cut to the bone in the past six months. They have been thoroughly disillusioned with their self-styled champion in the White House and his quack New Deal. In their hour of need they have bitterly witnessed their supposed friend make common cause with the reactionary Leaches and Stassens to drive down their standards and to break their strike. They have seen that when the interests of capitalism are threatened all politicians, whether they be dubbed reactionary, conservative, liberal or progressive, jump to protect capitalism.

It is to be hoped that these workers will profit by the lessons taught by this experience. Before the workers can hope to shake off the starvation rule of the capitalist exploiters they must rid themselves of the false notion that the government and its politicians are or can be impartial in the struggle between the workers and the boss class. Far from being an impartial agency, the government is an organized machine of class suppression, ever on guard to protect the rule of the capitalist class by subduing the workers. Labor cannot achieve its emancipation merely by placing its politicians into office in this anti-labor machine.

The only path to freedom from growing poverty, misery, insecurity, and the overwhelming horrors of war and fascism lies in the creation by the workers of their own revolutionary political and industrial organizations. Only these independent forces can accomplish the capture and destruction of the capitalist political machine, and the establishment in its stead of the workers' world. That is the task of the hour which history is now calling upon the workers to carry out.

SOCIETY'S BASIC FORCE — THE INDUSTRIES

THE DEBACLE of the Polish army is another experience which should serve as an object lesson in driving home the importance of the role played by economic and industrial power in modern society.

Before Hitler's "Blitzkrieg" the Polish army had been rated by military experts as one of the finest and best trained in Europe. It was expected that in the event of war the Poles, even though greatly outnumbered, would be able to take advantage of favorable and familiar military terrain and put up a stiff resistance to the enemy. But from the very first day, it was evident that the Polish army had collapsed like a punctured balloon in the face of the Nazi onslaught. What had happened?

A high-ranking Polish military authority supplies the answer. In an interview in London with the former Polish correspondent of the *New York Times*, this army officer made the following observations on the short-lived struggle:

"The Polish-German war was a war of men against steel and of horses against motors. Man and horse lost. Had Poland had 1,500 more bombers and fast pursuit planes, a closer net of anti-aircraft batteries all over the country and a couple of thousand more tanks and armored cars, the Germans would not have won their 'Blitzkrieg' in the East . . .

"The Polish army was one of the best in Europe, and Polish infantry proved in many battles superior to the German, but even this army could not resist the overpowering onslaught by steel, by bombers in the air and tanks on land."

This analysis is confirmed by the official French military report which stated that "whenever German infantry was not supported by planes and tanks, it was inferior to the Polish."

In other words, the superior military training and fighting spirit of the Poles over the German army was completely offset by the superior economic and industrial force of the Nazis.

In the First Imperialist World War the situation was quite similar, except that it was the German military force which

was superior in training and fighting technique. In the long run, however, the economic and industrial reserve power of the Allies, particularly after the United States entered the war, enabled them to overcome their military deficiencies and to conquer the superior German military machine.

The opposing governments realize full well that war is primarily a question of economic and industrial organization behind the lines. That is why, as Dorothy Thompson points out in her syndicated column on September 27th:

"The strategy of the war is to destroy the machine power of the opponents, and the military objectives will be, above all, industries capable of replacing the machines destroyed. Machines and the materials to make the machines and men capable of running the machines are what will decide the outcome of this war; not the blood and bones of millions of men hurled into the slaughter."

The American workers would do well to let these words and their import sink into their consciousness. It is they who in the final analysis are the arbiters of war. It is their brains, bones and sinews that operate the industrial machine without which no nation can wage war successfully. In their hands is the power, did they but realize it, to stop all war.

If the American working class were to proclaim before the world: "*This is no war of ours! This is no holy crusade against*

"The reactionaries openly speculate that the Soviet Union may try to beat Chamberlain at his own game by joining hands with Hitler. But even those who hate the land of Socialism cannot believe it, when they see that the Soviet Union alone rounds up the traitorous agents of Hitler within its own land, and puts them beyond all possibility of doing any more of their wrecking, spying and diversions for fascism."

—Earl Browder, Nov. 14, 1938.

Fascism but is merely a continuation of the First Imperialist War to determine which gang of rival imperialist bandits shall rule the earth! We refuse to support your imperialist war! We refuse to create or to transport the instruments of death and destruction with which you propose to murder our fellow workers in other countries!" And if they were to implement this declaration by perfecting the necessary industrial and political organization, then war would be impossible and capitalism, the breeder of war, doomed.

But Labor today is a sleeping giant, unaware of its own potential strength, oblivious to the dangers which surround it, heedless of the poisonous disunity which is sapping its strength from within.

Existing labor unions undermine working class solidarity and weaken the inherent economic strength of labor by creating artificial organizational barriers between different sections of the working class. Existing labor unions help capitalism and its agents to befuddle the workers into supporting imperialist war by accepting as eternal the status of wage slavery and capitalist exploitation. Above all, the leadership of the existing unions, in whom the workers place their faith, help to dissipate and disable the power of the workers by their subservience to the employers and their political agents.

Ostensibly the leaders of labor are pledged to peace. Both John L. Lewis and William Green have spoken out against participation in the war. But in action these misleaders support President Roosevelt in his attempt to create a "National Unity" which can only be the prelude to imperialist war. Both Lewis and Green have urged the adoption of the President's

"Neutrality" Bill which, as most observers admit, is designed to aid the Allies against Hitler.

Behind the scenes these "labor lieutenants of the capitalist class" are secretly conferring with Roosevelt and his aides and pledging their support in advance to the prosecution of the imperialist war, as their prototypes did in 1917. No protests against the notorious M Day proposals which are designed to tie the workers to the American war machine emanate from the labor bureaucrats. Their only complaint is that they have not been given any place of importance in the scheme to deprive the workers of all freedom of action when war comes.

The workers of America cannot depend on the present leadership of labor to conduct the struggle against imperialist war. They must look to their own efforts and to their own inherent economic strength which, once recognized and harnessed, is invincible. The crisis which confronts the working class can be overcome by throwing down all artificial organizational barriers which now divide the workers, by recasting their unions into fighting organs based upon recognition of the class struggle, and by adopting as their goal the abolition of capitalism and its replacement by the Industrial Republic of Labor. Hand in hand with this economic bulwark, the workers must build the revolutionary party with which to conquer and then destroy the capitalist state machine.

Thus equipped, Labor can not only defeat the war plans of the exploiters, but it can put an end forever to capitalism and all its miseries.

—ABRAHAM ZIEGLER

WHAT ARE THE ALLIED WAR AIMS?

THE MANNER in which the Allies rejected the Hitler peace proposal serves at one and the same time to explode the myth that the current imperialist war is purely the creation of the diabolical Hitler and to expose once more the false pretensions to Democracy of the Allied governments.

Let there be no misunderstanding. The

Socialist Union Party is fully cognizant of the real nature of Hitler's peace moves. Having accomplished his immediate objective, Hitler is quite willing to call off the war for the present; particularly since the cracked Nazi economy cannot stand the additional strain of a prolonged struggle. Were Hitler to succeed in obtaining

peace at this time on his own terms, it would constitute a thumping psychological victory for him and, by the same token, a devastating defeat for the Allies. As soon as he was again ready, Hitler would swoop down upon another small nation and no capitalist nation would be able to raise a finger to stop him.

Nevertheless, the Allied reaction to Hitler's offer furnished the proof, if any were still needed, that both sides are engaged in the battle, not for any abstract ideals such as "peace" or "democracy," but to determine which group shall dominate the commerce of the world.

Let us recall that the Allies had previously cast themselves in the role of the guardian angels of peace who, against their will, had been forced into the war by fascist aggression. In proposing peace Hitler very cleverly turned these claims to his own use. The Allies claimed to be in favor of peace. Very well. Here was their opportunity to prove their sincerity by stopping the war. He, Hitler, was willing to show his good faith by specifically renouncing all territorial claims in the West and to give guarantees against future crises, etc., etc. All he asked for was acceptance of the partition of Poland. After all, argued Hitler, the Allies could not in good faith continue to carry on a war the original cause of which, Poland, was wiped out. All the more so in view of the fact that Poland had constituted an artificial territorial creation of the Versailles Treaty which constantly oppressed the minority peoples within its borders.

The Allied governments, confronted with these arguments, could not afford to justify their rejection of Hitler's proposals on the dubious grounds of restoring an artificial Poland. They were compelled by necessity to place their rejection on the high plane of continuing the fight against "Hitlerism" until it was wiped out once and for all. Both Chamberlain and Daladier, in their speeches dealing with the German offer, announced that there could be no peace negotiations with the present regime in Germany, since Hitler could not be trusted. Peace could only be discussed with a "responsible" German government.

What colossal frauds these imperialist

politicians are! That Hitler is not to be trusted is no news. His real character has been self-advertised from the very beginning of his political career. The Allied statesmen were never under any illusions on this score. Certainly Chamberlain understood his Hitler at Munich, even though he would have the world believe that his trusting soul was taken in by Hitler's false promises. Chamberlain and Daladier yielded at Munich not because they placed any stock in Hitler's promises to preserve peace, but because they themselves were not yet ready for war. Moreover, Chamberlain was hopeful that a general war and its danger of proletarian revolution could be avoided by holding out to Hitler the bait of a free hand in the East against the Soviet Union. That he refused to bite and turned the tables on them by his alliance with Stalin makes Hitler all the more distasteful to his foes.

When Chamberlain and Daladier talk about not trusting Hitler and the necessity of fighting "Hitlerism" they are merely engaging in diplomatic "double talk." They want the masses to believe that what they mean by destroying Hitlerism is the overthrow of its vicious political philosophy and economic slavery. But what they actually want is the destruction of the

FASCISM AIDS TOP CAPITALISM (Cable from the Herald Tribune Bureau)

"BERLIN, Oct. 16.—Since the rise of National Socialism to power in Germany in 1933, the upper income groups in the population have steadily increased their share of the national income, according to figures made public by the bureau.

"The same figures show that 55% of Germany's wage earners made in 1938 less than 30 marks (\$12) a week.

"Since the Nazis seized power, the small number of Germans who receive more than 100,000 marks (\$40,000) a year have increased their total income from 352,000,000 marks (\$140,800,000) in 1936 to 1,460,000,000."

Well, anyway, Hitler did get rid of the Bolsheviks, didn't he?

powerful Nazi political and economic machine which, under Hitler's leadership, has resurrected capitalist Germany and made it a dangerous competitor which is seriously threatening Allied domination of world trade and colonies. That is the real meaning of the demand for a "responsible" German government, i.e., a government that will not trespass on the Allies' imperialist preserves.

That the Allies are not interested in destroying Fascism is clearly shown by their incessant attempts to win Mussolini away from Hitler and to make Italy their partner. Even a schoolboy or a Ludwig Lore knows that there is no difference between Hitler's National Socialism and Mussolini's Fascism. Both are equally enemies of all concepts of democracy. Fascist Italy, however, does not constitute an immediate menace to Allied imperialist domination at present while Fascist Germany does. Hence the seeming paradox of the Allies fighting Fascism in Germany while at the same time attempting to take the father of Fascism, Mussolini, to their bosom.

With the rejection of the Fuehrer's peace offer by the Allies the equal guilt of both sides for the current imperialist slaughter is openly revealed. Hitler started the war, but the Allies determined to carry it on at all costs, even to the sacrifice of millions of human lives and unequalled misery and destruction, in the effort to destroy the grim specter of German competition.

In the last issue of LABOR POWER we pointed out that *"It is not the workers who are conducting the war or who will decide how it is to be settled, but the imperialist governments!"* This should be self-evident to all informed people. But not so with large numbers of liberals and so-called radicals who have enlisted in the service of the Allied imperialists and proclaim this war to be different from its predecessor of 1914. This war, they would have us believe, really is a holy crusade to save democracy.

When Hitler made his peace overtures, these liberals and "radicals" hoped that Chamberlain and Daladier would seize the occasion to define clearly and in no

uncertain manner the war aims of the Allies, so that there could be no mistaking their truly democratic character. They reckoned without their hosts, however. The two speeches were singularly barren of any specific peace proposals or anything concrete outside of the demand that "Hitlerism" must go. This deliberate omission of specific declarations as to aims was so glaring that one of the strongest liberal supporters of the Allied cause, the *New York Post*, sharply took both Chamberlain and Daladier to task for mouthing meaningless generalities, while keeping the world in doubt as to what the Allies really want.

The glaring hypocrisy of British pretensions to waging a democratic war is graphically displayed by the present agitation in India where the India Congress taking British assertions at face value, raised a demand for self-government and a dominion status for India, to replace the disguised absolutism with which Britain now rules. The British viceroy preemptorily rejected this demand, stating that all such questions must be postponed until after the war.

The India Congress, however, is not quite so trustful of the promises of British imperialism as are some American liberals. The myth that this war is "different" leaves them cold. Newspaper dispatches report that serious trouble is brewing in India. If a "1776 Revolution" should break out there, it would be quite enlightening to watch our liberal and "radical" apologists for British imperialism join in denouncing the Indian revolutionists as Fascist spies and enemies of democracy!

The failure of the Allies to make public their specific war aims or the terms

"The whispered lies to the effect that the Soviet Union will enter into a treaty of understanding with Nazi Germany are nothing but poison spread by the enemies of peace and democracy, the appeasement mongers, the Munich-men of Fascism."

—*Daily Worker*.

on which they are willing to make peace is no accident. After the last war the Allies were greatly embarrassed in their attempts to do a complete job of dismembering Germany because they were compelled to accept Wilson's fourteen points openly, even though disavowing them privately. As the Paris correspondent of the *New York Times* informs us, the Allies are determined not to repeat the error of the last war, when, because of maudlin democratic sentiment, the job of subduing Germany was left unfinished.

With each passing day, the sordid imperialist character of the war stands out in bolder relief, exposing more sharply the colossal hypocrisy of the Allied pretensions to democracy. Workers, this is not our war! While there is still time, organize your forces to fight the war plans of the Roosevelt Administration! But above all, to abolish war and Fascism forever, organize to destroy capitalism, the corrupt order from which these horrors arise.

HOW NEUTRAL IS ROOSEVELT ?

(Continued from page 7)

traditionally pursued a policy of endeavoring to bring belligerent powers together around the conference table. Before America entered the World War in 1917, President Wilson had made a number of attempts, through his first Secretary of State, William Jennings Bryan, to mediate the struggle. Theodore Roosevelt played a leading role in establishing peace between Russia and Japan in 1904. Heretofore Franklin D. Roosevelt has gone along the same path as his predecessors. As is well known, he made a number of appeals to Hitler to preserve peace, during the Czech crisis in 1938 and in the more recent crises that preceded the German invasion of Poland. Yet when he was presented with a real opportunity to restore peace, of a sort different than he had himself previously proposed, he now unceremoniously rejected it, outwardly on the ground that he had no official knowledge of any peace offer.

Inspired newspaper reports from Wash-

ington, however, made it quite apparent that even if the offer were officially made, the President would not accept the task of mediator unless his services were also requested by the Allies. The reason for the President's refusal to mediate is not difficult to discover. The Hitler peace proposal was a cunning maneuver designed to put the Allies in a hole. Rather than embarrass those whom he favored, Roosevelt let it be known that he would make no more moves for peace unless they were approved by the Allies.

While space considerations prevent a more extended cataloging of the unneutral actions of the American government since the commencement of hostilities in Europe, sufficient links have been welded together to form a strong circumstantial chain clearly revealing the tie-up between the Roosevelt Administration and the Allies. If not destroyed, this must before long involve America directly in the Second Imperialist World War.

The workers of America must shake off their illusions that 1940 will prove different than 1917, that this time America will stay out of war, that Roosevelt will succeed where Wilson failed. The interests of American capitalism are so closely bound up with Allied success that American capitalism cannot afford the risk of Allied defeat. Consequently America cannot remain neutral.

There is only one way to keep America out of war, as we have repeated time and again, and as we will continue to repeat until the workers realize the truth: Drive capitalism out of America and replace it with a workers' administration of production. Only then will the cause of war—capitalist need for expansion of markets and colonies—be done away with.

"Rumors that Germany will enter into a pact with Communist Russia are part of a campaign to smear Hitler with the Communist brush."

—Fritz Kuhn, American Nazi.

ALF LANDON "SOLVES" THE UNEMPLOYMENT PROBLEM

THE LATEST feeble attempt within the camp of capitalism to meet the challenge of unemployment, the most serious problem confronting the ruling class, proceeds from Alf M. Landon, titular head of the Republican Party and its Presidential nominee in 1936. Mr. Landon's efforts at solving the question are about as successful as his campaign against F. D. R.

In an address at Cornell College, Mt. Vernon, Iowa, after having singled out the unemployment question as "the most important of all our problems," Mr. Landon made the following pertinent remarks:

"Our attention has been focused primarily on the care of the unemployed, and not enough upon the cause and cure of unemployment . . . We must not be satisfied with anything short of the understanding and permanent solution of the vast problem of unemployment throughout our country."

Having read thus far, one begins to hope that at least we are going to get an intelligent and constructive discussion of this vital subject. But vain is the hope. Landon proceeds to follow up his sound beginning with a repetition of the same old platitudes and clichés that have become threadbare during the past ten years since the "depression" began. For example, he tells us that "the safety of our republic, the security of the individual, rest upon the engagement of the greatest number in private enterprises of their own." Translating this sentence into more appropriate terms, it would read, "the safety of the capitalist state, the security of the individual capitalist, rest upon turning the majority of the population into property-owners, shopkeepers and small business men."

Mr. Landon overlooks the fact however, that the problem he is trying to solve arises precisely because his sacred private enterprise broke down, displacing millions of workers from their jobs and bankrupting tens of thousands of small business men and shopkeepers. To talk about private enterprise being the only salvation is

to beg the question. It is for Mr. Landon and the rest of capitalism's apologists to show HOW private enterprise can solve this problem which it created in the first place. This is something they have been unable to show during the past ten years, and Mr. Landon succeeds no better than those who tried before him.

So strong is Alf's faith in capitalism that he is very much disturbed by the more or less universal acceptance "of the suggestion frequently made in Washington that unemployment on something near the present scale is permanently inevitable." This thought is particularly distasteful to Mr. Landon in that it "does not take into account American ingenuity and resourcefulness. The same types of men that made America are capable of finding a solution for this most important of all our problems."

The contention that present unemployment levels are permanent and cannot be reduced in the ordinary course of capitalism's functioning is not a matter of "suggestion" or "taste" but is based on cold and implacable figures. Here, for example, is the report of John D. Witten, New York State Statistician for the W.P.A. as summarized by the *Christian Science Monitor* on Oct. 14th. Let Mr. Landon chew on this awhile:

"New York City employment in September was higher than the 1929 average, although the number of unemployed was also far greater because of the increase of workers that had taken place during the last decade . . .

"Using the 1929 index of employment as 100, New York City in September had an employment index of 102 in comparison with an index of 95.7 for August. Using the 1929 index of unemployment as 100 however, we find that the city's unemployment index was 569 for September, 587 for August and 735 for July, 1939.

"The report went on to state that due to the increase in available workers in the past ten years, employment would have to rise approximately 15 to 20 per cent. above

1929 levels before unemployment is reduced to 1929 average."

A recent preliminary report of the Temporary National Economic Committee contains a devastating rejoinder to Mr. Landon's expectation that American capitalist "ingenuity and resourcefulness" are capable of solving the problem of chronic unemployment. The Committee stated:

"The tendency toward concentration of control of the economic system in fewer and fewer business executives seems proved. The consequence of that tendency is a steadily lessening number of competitors . . . It is clear that the financial and other resources required for economic endeavor are becoming increasingly difficult for the ordinary enterpriser to obtain, and that the concentration of economic power and wealth is accompanied by increasing unemployment and narrowing markets.

In the face of the foregoing, what happens to Mr. Landon's thesis? The "ingenuity and resourcefulness" of American capitalism and its servitors is apparently being devoted to the concentration of wealth, the elimination of competition and the creation of a growing army of unemployed. But even if we conceded to the upholders of the present order the most high-minded motives, they could not repeat the exploits of the pioneers in building American capitalism. As Mr. Landon knows or should know, those pioneers, for all their vaunted ingenuity and resourcefulness, were not miracle workers. They accomplished the task of making America the most highly advanced capitalist nation on earth under favorable economic conditions of an expanding market, both domestic and foreign. Such conditions exist no longer.

The problem which Mr. Landon sought to tackle is still seeking an answer. If the Republican chief is really anxious to grapple with it, we suggest that he explain to his next audience just how, concretely, private enterprise, faced with growing concentration of industry, elimination of competition, increasing mechanization of production and ever narrowing of markets, is to succeed in stepping up present produc-

tion levels 15 to 20 per cent. so that existing unemployment may be absorbed.

The intellectual incapacity of the apologists of capitalism to meet the challenge of unemployment is not accidental. It flows naturally out of the bankruptcy of the ca-

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EDITORIALS

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laws passed by politicians, whose job is to protect the capitalist class which pays them. The road to security lies in organizing the forces of the workers to overthrow capitalism, which has denied them security in the first place. When the workers have instituted their own order of society, neither capitalists nor politicians will be around to prevent every citizen of the industrial republic from receiving his or her full share of the social wealth produced.

The unemployed and aged workers should not halt their efforts to make the politicians disgorge as much as they can of capitalism's stolen wealth to relieve their distress to whatever extent possible. What they must realize, however, is that in the long run they cannot secure enough in this manner to solve their problem, and eventually they will have to organize to abolish capitalism anyway. They should organize under the banner of Socialism today and carry on their own struggle with their eyes open to its limitations.

The battle for "ham and eggs" can only be successfully ended when the workers have completed the task of expropriating the private property of the few capitalists and transformed the intries into means of satisfying the needs of the many workers.

BRANCH NEW YORK LECTURE SERIES

A new series of lectures, designed to make Party headquarters a center of working class discussion meetings, is now being scheduled by Comrade Harvey Pozensky, Organizer of Branch New York. Many individuals prominent in the labor movement have been contacted and efforts will be made to secure speakers representing as many currents in working class thought as possible.

Several speakers have already expressed their willingness to appear before our forum but conflicting engagement dates make it impossible to announce their names. Those dates which have definitely been booked are:

Sunday, Nov. 19th — "From Weimar to Hitler" — II Speaker — Wendelin Thomas

Sunday, Nov. 26th — "The State, Socialism, and Dictatorship" — Speaker — Herbert Brandon

The lectures will be held each Sunday evening at 8:30 P.M. at 1301 Boston Road, Bronx. Admission is free. Questions and discussion from the floor will be permitted. All those interested in learning labor's views on current problems should attend these lectures.

THE WORKING DAY (From "*Capital*")

BY KARL MARX

WHAT is a working day? What is the length of time during which capital may consume the labor-power whose daily value it buys? How far may the working day be extended beyond the working time necessary for the reproduction of labor-power itself? It has been seen that to these question capital replies: the working day contains the full twenty-four hours, with the deduction of the few hours of repose without which labor-power absolutely refuses its services again. Hence it is self-evident that the laborer is nothing else, his whole life through, than labor-power;

that therefore all his disposable time is by nature and law labor-time, to be devoted to the self-expansion of capital. Time for education, for intellectual development, for the fulfilling of social functions and for social intercourse, for the free-play of his bodily and mental activity, even the rest time of Sunday (and that in a country of Sabbatarians!)—moonshine! But in its blind, unrestrainable passion, its werewolf hunger for surplus-labor, capital oversteps not only the moral, but even the merely physical maximum bounds of the working-day. It usurps the time for growth, development, and healthy maintenance of the body. It steals the time required for the consumption of fresh air and sunlight. It higgles over a meal-time, incorporating it where possible with the process of production itself, so that food is given to the laborer as to a mere means of production, as coal is supplied to the boiler, grease and oil to the machinery. It reduces the sound sleep needed for the restoration, reparation, refreshment of the bodily powers, to just so many hours of torpor as the revival of an organism, absolutely exhausted, renders essential. It is not the normal maintenance of the labor-power which is to determine the limits of the working-day; it is the greatest possible daily expenditure of labor-power, no matter how diseased, compulsory or painful it may be, which is to determine the limits of the laborers' period of repose. Capital cares nothing for the length of life of labor-power. All that concerns it is simply and solely the maximum of labor-power that can be rendered fluent in a working-day. It attains this end by shortening the extent of the laborer's life, as a greedy farmer snatches increased produce from the soil by robbing it of its fertility.

ILLINOIS RELIEF WORKERS FORM NEW ORGANIZATION

The Illinois Workers Alliance held its annual convention on October 28 and 29 at Springfield. Twenty-one delegates were present from the different branches. The smallness of the number of delegates was due mainly to the disruptive tactics of

the Stalinists in the local organizations and in the National Office. The activities of the National Office of the Workers Alliance in particular have been responsible for the destruction of the unemployed movement all over the country. The Illinois organization finally seceded and has slowly been regathering its membership and its following. At this convention the name of the organization was changed to the Illinois Workers Security Federation.

The especially tragic effect of unemployment on negro workers was graphically described by delegates from Chicago and Cairo who reported consistent discrimination by relief authorities against negroes. The convention itself was marred by similar discrimination on the part of the hall owners, the Slovak National Benefit Association, who forced negro delegates to eat in a back room instead of in the hall's restaurant. The convention decided to stop using this restaurant and also to send a resolution of protest to the owners.

The convention adopted a militant anti-war resolution and resolved to work for a better world instead of fighting for a fake democracy that gave them hardly enough to eat. The whole convention was permeated with a militant resolve to build an organization that would be able effectively to fight for the interests of the unemployed, and to do all in its power to end this system of misery under which the workers live.

NEW YORK HOLDS ANTI-WAR FILM THEATRE PARTY

All New York City film-goers who are planning to see the last and most thrilling anti-war picture to come out of France, "That They May Live," are urged to secure their tickets through Branch New York's Theatre Party Committee, which has booked the Filmarte Theatre for every evening between November 27th and December 1st, inclusive. Tickets are 75c each, entitling the purchaser to the best available seats.

The film, which was highly praised by every New York reviewer, is a bitter indictment of the criminal conduct of those who have driven the world to war. Produced just before the present war began, it was banned by the French government and can be shown only in the United States. English subtitles have been written by Pierre Van Paassen, noted author of "Days of Our Years."

Write for your tickets to Theatre Party Committee, P.O. Box 4, Station T, New York City, or call at 1301 Boston Road, Bronx any evening.

TO LABOR

Shall you complain who feed the world?
 Who clothe the world?
 Who house the world?
 Shall you complain who are the world,
 Of what the world may do?
 As from this hour
 You use your power,
 The world must follow you!
 The world's life hangs on your right hand!
 Your strong right hand,
 Your skilled right hand,
 You hold the whole world in your hand,
 See to it what you do!
 Or dark or light,
 Or wrong or right,
 The world is made by you!

Then rise as you never rose before!
 Nor hoped before!
 Nor dared before!
 And show as was never shown before,
 The power that lies in you!
 Stand all as one!
 See justice done!
 Believe, and Dare, and Do!

—CHARLOTTE PERKINS GILMAN
From "In This Our World"

ALF LANDON "SOLVES" THE UNEMPLOYMENT PROBLEM

(Continued from page 16)

capitalist system of production itself. Capitalism does not dare examine too deeply below the surface the problem because it is well aware that the solution points unmistakably to the destruction of capitalism, the abolition of private ownership in the means of production, and the end of production for profit. And the capitalist class is not at all desirous of committing suicide by revealing the truth.

Permanent unemployment is a direct product of one of capitalism's insoluble contradictions. Capitalism produces solely for the market; it seeks profit by exchanging commodities for money. With each passing year, however, the market grows narrower; at home because the masses become more and more impoverished; and abroad because of the greater and greater competition from rival capitalist nations. At the same time that its markets are contracting, industry becomes increasingly productive because of technical advances and has less and less need for human labor. No amount of "ingenuity and resourcefulness," no amount of faith in private enterprise, a la Landon, no amount of tinkering with or reforming capitalism a la Roosevelt and his New Deal, can solve this basic contradiction of capitalism.

It is high time the workers stopped paying attention to fake explanations and the fake remedies for their miserable plight offered by the capitalist class. The Socialist solution for unemployment and the host of other social evils which beset the world today still remains to be put into effect. It is the only one which will work.

To meet the challenge of unemployment, capitalism must be abolished. Only by the workers taking over the social means of production and distribution and operating them for the benefit of society as a whole instead of for the private gain of a small clique, can they emancipate themselves from the miseries they undergo today. That is the Socialist solution.

There is another—the Fascist "solution." Italy and Germany have "solved" the unemployment problem by enslaving the working class to the capitalists, and by substituting forced labor for the dole of "free" capitalist countries.

Workers, capitalism's crisis is becoming more acute with each passing day. You must soon be prepared to make a choice. Unless you move toward proletarian revolution and the Socialist solution as the way out, Fascist enslavement will be your inevitable fate.

ORGANIZATION NOTES

(Continued from page 2)

ruling class power. The practical application of these basic social laws to present day social problems was pointed out.

The class will continue to meet promptly at 8 P. M. on Tuesday evenings at Good Templar Hall, 1416 S. Second Ave., Minneapolis. All Minneapolis readers are invited to attend and to bring fellow workers and friends. There is no charge or obligation for the course.

In addition to this elementary class, an advanced class in Marx's "Capital" is being organized.

A series of public lectures under the auspices of Branch Minneapolis of the Socialist Union Party has been scheduled. The burning question of the day, "Can America Stay Out of War?" will be the subject of the first of these talks, to be delivered by Comrade Ziegler on Thursday evening, November 9th at the Good Templar Hall.

This will be followed by a topic particularly close to the Minneapolis workers, "The W.P.A. Conspiracy Trials," on Thursday, November 16th.

News of additional activities will follow. The Minneapolis comrades are on the job, determined to make Comrade Ziegler's stay an outstanding organizational success.

THE DESCENDING SCOURGE

LABOR POWER has repeatedly emphasized the danger of the Fascist peril confronting the American Labor Movement. To some of our readers, we may have appeared unduly alarmed. The following two clippings, from widely different sources, should serve to bring home to the mind of any such doubting Thomases the imminence of the danger.

Clipping No. 1 is from a pamphlet, "Dupes of Judah," published by the notorious William Dudley Pelley of the fascist Silver Shirts:

"My men don't march up and down the best streets on Armistice Day, or paste posters on donated billboards, or pass resolutions against Communism in conventions and then offer their rostrums to the biggest Communists in the nation. My crowd is organized so that nobody but the leaders of their own group know who they are. But let the trouble start anywhere in the nation—from a 'purge' of the State Democratic organizations of 'constitutional' Americans, to another marine strike in Seattle or an attempted sabotage of industry by sitdown strikes in Michigan, Ohio or Pennsylvania, and always up near the head of the Vigilante leaders you find a Silvershirt or a knot of Silvershirts."

Clipping No. 2 is a New York dispatch printed in the *Christian Science Monitor* of October 30th:

"Warning that the United States is headed toward measures dangerous to civil liberties under the present war tension, the American Civil Liberties Union Committee had urged the local committees throughout the country to take precautions against infringement of freedom of speech, press and assemblage.

"Among actions which the union holds tend to put the Bill of Rights in reverse are vigilante citizen groups to report on 'unneutral influences,' the addition of 150 new agents to the Department of Justice staff, the Dies Committee 'raids' in Chicago and Washington, proposals to dissolve groups such as the German-American Bund and the Communist Party gag bills, and anti-alien legislation pending in Congress."

In the light of the foregoing it is clear that the menace of fascism is no figment of the writer's imagination, but a stark reality. Now, as never before, is there an urgent necessity for enlightened workers to do something concrete to escape the descending scourge.

As a first step in fighting fascism we ask our readers to join us in helping to build a more powerful LABOR POWER and in extending its growing circle of readers. You can do this by

1. Sending in your subscription at 50c per year or 25c for six months
2. Ordering a bundle for distribution among your shop mates, friends and neighbors.
3. Sending in a contribution, no matter how modest, to the Publication Fund.

Send orders and remittances to BUSINESS MANAGER, "LABOR POWER," P. O. Box No. 4, Station T, New York, N. Y.